Cancellations and Refunds

We must be notified of cancellations at least one **week prior** to your visit to return a full refund, less a $5 service charge. No refunds will be issued after this time. If your school is canceled due to weather or other reason, we will reschedule or issue a full refund.

A word about chaperones

To keep the group size manageable so all children can see and hear effectively, we ask that the number of chaperones be kept to the number necessary for transportation and supervision.

Program Fees for 2008-2009:

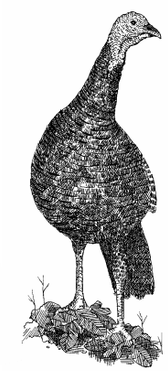
Tour **- $40** Per Classroom
Apple Butter **- $20** per Classroom

A maximum ratio is 1 adult per 4 children.
A charge of $2 will be assessed for each additional adult.

On-the-Road Programs - 1 hour
$50 Per Classroom - maximum 10 miles
$60 Per Classroom - maximum 30 miles

At the Nature Center...

* There are picnic tables available (no roofed shelter).
* Restrooms and drinking fountains are located inside the Visitor Center
* Collection of natural material is prohibited.
* Stay on the trail and behind the naturalist.
* Ask questions and have fun!
* Gift shop available with 1 week prior notice.



To plan your visit...

1. Choose a program topic

from the variety of topics that have been developed to coordinate with the curriculum of local schools. *We are always glad to work with you to adapt topics or create a new program that will cover your own curriculum needs.*

2. Select a date & time

Tuesday through Friday - Fall, Winter and Spring. Programs last from 1.5 to 2 hours, with much of the time being spent outdoors.

3. Call to register

between 9am and 4pm Tuesday through Friday to schedule your visit. We will send a confirmation form a month in advance of your visit for your review. Please fill in any blanks, sign and return the yellow copy with the program fee ***at least 1 week prior*** to your visit.

4. Bring your curiosity

and be prepared on your scheduled day to have an awesome outdoor educational experience! Please advise your class to **dress appropriately for the weather**. We will be going into the "outdoor classroom" unless severe (i.e. lightening) weather conditions prevail. (Our programs are canceled only when your schools are closed.)

In Your Classroom…

As with our on site programs, we are happy to work with you to plan a program for your classroom.

Early Elementary

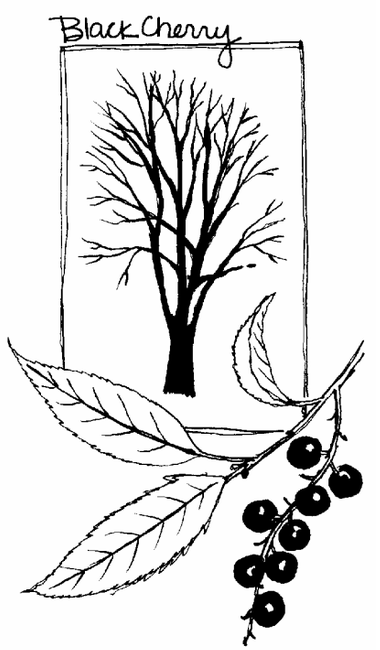
Nature in Winter - Change of seasons and cold weather survival
Plants and/or Animals - Compare and contrast physical characteristics
Reptiles and Amphibians - Identification & behavior

Upper Elementary

Classification of Plants/Animals - Physical features
Michigan Mammals - Identification, physical and behavioral adaptations (animal pelts and skulls)
Tipping the Balance - Endangered species, population decline, diversity, human influence
Plants - Plant types, life cycles and structure

Fenner Nature Center

Elementary Education Programs 2008/2009



2020 E Mt Hope Lansing MI 48910
Phone: 517-483-4224
Fax: 517-377-0012
Lansing Parks and Recreation Dept.

Welcome to your outdoor classroom

Join us for an educational adventure! Under the guidance of a staff naturalist, your students will explore the fields, forests, and wetlands of Fenner Nature Center. Observation and discussion will be an important component of every field trip.

Please note. The topics below are suggestions derived from the state science goals and objectives. We are able to adjust topics to different grade levels or work with you on a custom program for your classroom.

5 Senses [Kindergarten]
Use your five senses to observe daily and seasonal weather changes. The program includes discussion of seasonal cycles.
S.IA.00.12; S.IP.00.11

Tree Homes [Kindergarten]
What do organisms need to survive, and how living and non-living trees provide food and shelter?
L.OL.00.11, 12

Earth Explorations [Kindergarten]
Walk the trails to discover water and soil in our natural world. Use hand lenses to find out what soil is made of and how soil and water help plants and animals survive.
S.IP.00.14; E.SE.00.11; L.OL.00.11

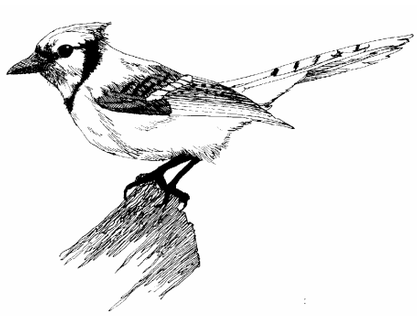
Animal Families [Grades 1 & 3]
Compare and contrast physical attributes of Michigan animal families. Take a walk and chart the variety of animals seen, or evidence of animals, including vertebrates and invertebrates. Look for adaptations that help animals to survive in the four seasons we experience here in Michigan.
P.PM.01.11; E.ES.01, 22; S.IP.01.16; L.HE.01.11
L.OL.03.32, 42; L.EV.03.12

Life Cycles of Native Animals [Grade 1]
Observe the different stages in the lives of an insect, a bird and a mammal that lives at Fenner. What does each stage of the cycle have in common with each other and how are they different.
L.OL.01.21; L.HE.01.11, 12

It All Starts with the Sun [Grade 1]
Life on earth depends on the light and warmth of the sun. Discover the interconnection of earth materials such as soil, water, and air as the necessary ingredients for the growth of plants and health of animals. Discuss how humans have adapted to this environment.
L.OL.01.13; E.SE.01.12; E.ES.01.11, 12; 1-G5.0.1;

Solid and Fluid Earth [Grades 2 and 3]
Why does our earth look like it does? The crust is made up of water and rocks and minerals of different sizes, shapes and colors. Investigate the effects of water and other forces on surface features. Have humans contributed a change in surface features?
E.SE.02.21; E.FE.02.11, 12, 21, 22; P.PM.02.12
E.SE.03.13, 14, 22, 31, 32

Natural Resources of Michigan [Grade 3]
Investigate our natural resources. What is a natural resource, how do we use them in our daily lives, and what is the effect of our collection of these resources on the environment? Using a map of Michigan, locate these resources and hypothesize how the state of Michigan grew to be what it is today?
E.ES.03.41, 42, 43, 44, 51, 52; S.RS.03.18;
3-G5.0.1, 2; 3-E1.0.3



Green is Beautiful [Grade 2 & 3]
The basis of all life is plants. Take a close look at the typical parts of plant and their functions.
L.OL.02.14, 22; L.HE.02.13; P.PM.02.12
In addition, what strategies do plants use to survive? We will take a close look to see how plants are grouped by common characteristics.
L.OL.03.31, 41; L.EV.03.11

The Pond Ecosystem [Grade 4]
Dipping into a pond ecosystem, we will take a look at the aquatic food web, plant and animal adaptations to the watery environment. Discuss how people have affected the water cycle, surface and ground water, and how individual plants and animals are affected. An extended program is available using microscopes for an additional fee.
L.EC.04.11, 21; L.EV.04.22; L.OL.04.15, 16; 4-G5.0.1

Avian GPS [Grade 4 & 5]
What is the connection between birds and the earth, sun, and moon?
Review the movements of the earth, sun and moon and how that movement creates our days, months, seasons and year. Then we will take a close look at birds and their migration patterns to see how they utilize these celestial bodies and also the magnetic field of the earth. On our walk searching for bird flight, students will have the opportunity to learn how to use binoculars.
E.ST.04.21, 22, 23, 25; 4-G1.0.3; P.PM.04.33; S.IP.04.14; S.IP.05.13; S.RS.05.12; E.ES.05.61, 62;

Tipping the Balance [Fifth Grade]
What makes a healthy environment and what affect does the environment have on individual plants and animals? We live in a time of documented decline and extinction of many species. What is causing this and is there anything that can be done to reverse this trend?
L.EV.05.11, 12, 14; L.HE.05.11

Seasonal Programs:

***APPLE BUTTER TOURS* – Oct.13 - 17, 2008**
Come back with us 100 years to the apple harvest. Observe how apples are prepared, and help stir the bubbling apples in the large kettle over the open fire , then have a taste of the finished product. The tour lasts 45 minutes. Leave time to walk the trails and enjoy the fall colors.
K-G5.0.1; 1.H2.0.5, 6; 1-G5.0.1; 3-H3.0.5, 7

APPLE BUTTER FESTIVAL **Free**
Saturday & Sunday, October 18 & 19, 11am - 4pm.

***MAPLE SYRUP TOURS*-March 10 - 20, 2009**
This 1.5 hour program is suitable for all grades, but particularly ties in with 4th grade science (plant growth) and the cultural history of early Michigan. We will be tapping trees and boiling sap, and also demonstrating historical tapping by Native Americans and early Michigan settlers.
E.SE.00.11; L.OL.00.11; E.ES.01.12;S.IP.01.14; 1-H2.0.5, 6; 1-G5.0.1;; L.OL.02.14; S.IP.02.14;3.H3.0.5, 6; S.IP.03.14;S.IP.04.14;S.IP.05.13;S.IP.05.13

MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL **Free**
Saturday & Sunday, March 21 & 22 11am - 4pm.